



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were trending unchanged. Trade sentiment was mostly about steady to barely steady. Retail demand was light, food service fair to fairly good, best where holiday parties and catering services were present. Supplies were at least sufficient for trade needs. Road conditions were not as hazardous as early week, but availability of trucks was limited. Processing schedules for next week are part time with plants down one sometimes two days for Christmas. In the parts structure, all items were at least adequate with mixed movement except wings which remained short of an active call. In production areas, live supplies were moderate to light with higher mortality rates reported in the South due to lingering extreme cold weather. Weights were irregular, but mostly desirable.

**Preliminary report** of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 12/25-12/30/00 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A			COMPOSITE	
(Including branded product)			WTD	LOADS
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	AVG	
Chicago	48.00-52.00	47.00-53.00	49.83	24
Los Angeles	66.00			
New York	44.00-47.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	58.00-61.00	45.00-64.00	60.45	74

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 61.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

### PRERELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
562	57.00-62.75	61.27

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	127.50	3,602
BREASTS - WHOLE	62.50	861
THIGH MEAT - B/S	80.50	587
LEG QUARTERS	24.50	6,613
WINGS	85.50	2,237

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into Chicago were unchanged from last Monday's final. Whole broiler/fryer trade sentiment was steady to barely steady, instances weak. Whole fryer offerings were light, Wogs moderate. Movement into all channels was mixed, slow to fairly good with retail demand somewhat improved over previous day's movement and fast food outlets and catering fairly good. Road conditions were much improved permitting more timely deliveries, but availability of trucking was tight to non-existent. Floor stocks were in a full range with weights generally desirable. Parts offerings were fully sufficient for the light trade needs, except wings were in short supply and wanted. The market tone was steady to firm on wings and barely steady with a weak undertone on the balance of items.

**NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was very light as dealers attempted to maintain limited floor stocks moving into the holiday weekend. Offerings of all sizes were at least adequate for immediate needs. The market tone was about steady. Movement through retail and distributive channels was seasonally slow, however, better draw was noted through fast food and restaurant sectors. In the parts complex, bone-in breasts were ample, and boneless-skinless breasts were at least adequate. Wings continued to see active interest and were closely balanced to tight. The balance of parts were more than sufficient.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Preliminary majority prices unchanged. Trade sentiment about steady. Offerings adequate overall. Producers plan to close on Monday for the holiday. Retailer demand was moderate to good, best to cover ads and fast food needs. Dealers anticipated light weekend carryovers where delivery delays anticipated otherwise moderate. Wings were strong, breasts barely steady and balance of parts about steady. Ads noted: Southern California - whole body 57-79, leg quarters 380-590 (10# bags), thighs 69-79, drums 69-79, split breasts 119, boneless leg meat 118, boneless breasts 198-429, roasters 99-129, cornish hens 99-169; Northern California - whole body 79 and cut-up 129, boneless thighs 228, leg quarters 330 (10# bags), boneless breasts 167, roasters 129, ducks 169; Denver - boneless breasts 199, geese 229, roasters 119, ducks 159, capons 229; Southern Arizona - whole body or split 99-149, boneless breasts 179-399; Northern Arizona - whole body or split 99-149, split breasts 79, ducks 199, boneless breasts 299 and roasters 99.

**SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Trade sentiment was steady at best. Demand was seasonal, best for holiday items and into fast food. Supplies were at least sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules were mostly part time due to adverse weather conditions and next week's Christmas holiday. In the parts structure, trading was good for wings, light for all other parts. Breast items were adequate to ample and difficult to place, and dark meat was usually sufficient. In production areas, live supplies were moderate to light as DOA numbers continued to rise as temperatures dropped. Weights were mostly desirable.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was generally limited to last minute deliveries of standing commitments. Seller offerings were fully sufficient. Live supplies were seasonally moderate; weights were desirable in a full range of light to heavy. Processings schedules were light to moderate. All plants will close in observance of the holiday on Monday. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 47 to 61 cents. Trade sentiment remained about steady. In the parts complex, all items were at least adequate, particularly breasts cuts; however, trade interest was now centered on the holiday lengthened weekend.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

		BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE		44-60
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		49.75
NO. OF BOXES		13,157
CUMULATIVE	12/18/00-12/22/00	49.33
	12/20/99-12/24/99	57.00
NO. OF BOXES	12/18/00-12/22/00	65,759
	12/20/99-12/24/99	40,982

\*7 of 8 plants reporting.

DECEMBER 21, 2000

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

DECEMBER 22, 2000

POUNDS					POUNDS					WEEKLY	
ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG	
BREAST - B/S	837	110.00-200.00	125-135	130.74	900	105.00-200.00	125-135	131.14	4,060	132.96	
TENDERLOINS	185	135.00-195.00	135-145	145.41	165	135.00-195.00	140-145	149.85	761	149.97	
BREAST - LINE RUN	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				442	63.15	
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				284	54.49	
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				270	30.48	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	422	19.00-24.00	19-20	19.26	186	17.00-24.00	18-19	17.87	1,674	18.47	
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,660	20.00-27.00	22-24	22.83	1,781	19.00-27.00	22-25	22.40	8,318	22.95	
WINGS (WHOLE)	324	81.00-85.00	82-84	84.10	287	83.00-85.00	-	84.55	1,547	84.41	
WINGS (CUT)	561	87.00-110.00	94-96	96.99	407	87.00-110.00	94-97	96.12	4,013	96.07	
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				TFEWR		
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				TFEWR		
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				153	69.76	
*****					*****						
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS					WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS						
TRADING FOR DEC 21, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.					TRADING FOR DEC 22, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.					TODAY'S	5-DAY
RANGE					RANGE					AVERAGE	AVERAGE
34.00 - 39.50					33.00 - 39.50					35.77	36.35

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** Trucklot buying interest was light today as dealers attempted to end the week with very limited floorstocks and carry as little product as possible over the holiday weekend. Offerings of bone-in breasts were ample, and boneless-skinless breasts were usually available. Dark meat items were more than sufficient. Wings continued to see strong clearances and were usually close to tight at times. Movement into retail and distributive channels was seasonally slow. The market tone was fully steady on wings, cautiously steady on breast items, no better than steady on the balance.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO 1ST RCVRS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB DEC 22, 2000

ITEM	CURRENT NEG		WTD	VOL/LBS	CURRENT NEG		WTD	VOL/LBS	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**			TRADING*	AVG**			WTD AVG	WTD VOL
BREAST - B/S	115-120	118.88	588,170		115-120	119.95	692,280	119.78	3,233,220	
TENDERLOINS	130-135	134.37	190,830		130-135	134.60	190,440	134.28	894,890	
BREAST - WITH RIBS	52-53	62.28	284,920		52-53	57.98	387,000	62.82	1,577,040	
BREAST - LINE RUN	52	50.50	144,000		52	50.80	180,000	55.56	822,040	
LEGS	33-34	36.27	287,360		33-34	34.95	298,280	35.93	1,296,220	
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	20-21	20.52	456,236		20-21	21.15	522,381	21.22	2,788,429	
DRUMSTICKS	26-27	32.91	241,040		26-27	33.40	251,110	33.19	1,193,510	
THIGHS	30-31	35.52	160,620		30-31	34.53	194,980	33.64	938,070	
B/S THIGHS	78-79	82.31	64,400		78-79	82.26	83,520	82.40	343,260	
WINGS (WHOLE)	81-82	90.22	363,620		81-82	89.90	349,860	89.81	1,932,590	
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.08	94,100		10-12	12.06	111,160	12.03	509,300	
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	39.74	96,600		35-40	37.91	121,560	40.92	510,660	
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	65-70	69.96	130,560		65-70	69.97	156,060	69.87	678,810	

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). \* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG		AVG	
	12/22	12/21	12/20	12/19	WTS	12/20	12/19	WTS
ALA	3,215	3,814	3,613	3,803	5.06	5.05	3,793	5.15
ARK	4,585	5,189	5,325	5,246	4.94	4.97	8,028	4.91
DELMARVA	2,082	2,339	2,159	2,105	4.92	4.97	2,065	4.94
KY-LA-TN	1,908	2,028	1,976	1,900	4.51	4.60	2,099	4.59
MISS	2,360	2,774	2,452	2,557	4.94	4.98	2,818	5.16
NC	2,699	2,639	2,656	2,442	5.73	6.01	2,629	5.80
TEXAS	2,327	2,357	2,287	2,096	5.02	5.00	2,617	5.05
TOTAL	19,176	21,140	20,468	20,149	5.03	5.07	24,049	5.12
MON-FRI	101,752	(A)					102,421	(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 22-Dec AND 23-Dec-00 is estimated to be 28,689,000 down 7.97 percent from a week ago and up 3394.4 percent from a year ago (CHRISTMAS EVE).(Last week 31,173,000; last year 821,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 23-Dec-00 is estimated to be 148,766,000 head unchanged from a week ago, and up 26.6 percent from a year ago (Last week 148,530,000 Last year 117,493,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	81-84
ROASTERS 4# & UP	71-93
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	81
DUCKS	139
RABBITS-WHOLE	294
RABBITS-CUT UP	299

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY****DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	103-106
ICE PACK	93-96
ROASTERS 4# & UP	105-112
ICE PACK	112-119
DRY PACK	
HENS OVER 5#	98
ICE PACK	94
DRY PACK	
DUCKS	152-166

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Dec 09, 2000 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning  
Food service  
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up  
-----THOUSANDS-----

Head	26,937	25,366	42,883
Avg Weight	3.73	4.71	6.10
% of total /1	28%	27%	45%
<b>COMPARISONS</b>			
Last week	35,671	27,826	51,030
Avg Weight	3.83	4.70	6.15
% of total /1	31%	24%	45%
Same week, yr ago /2	27,977	20,230	41,371
Avg Weight	3.80	4.81	6.08
% of total /1	31%	23%	46%
To date/2000	1,600,896	1,604,637	1,989,859
To date/1999	1,557,549	1,507,603	1,989,113

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

#### **LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION**

WEEK ENDING 16-Dec-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

YOUNG LIGHT HEAVY TOTAL  
CHICKENS HENS HENS HENS DUCKS  
-----THOUSANDS-----

HEAD	148,530 (A)	1,900	1,202	3,102	566
AVG WT	5.18	3.61	8.25	5.41	6.60
LAST WEEK	151,794	1,927	1,353	3,280	530
YEAR AGO	149,008	2,594	2,544	5,138	384
AVG WT	5.05	3.40	7.70	5.53	6.95
TO-DATE/2000	7,672,039	94,278	71,787	166,065	22,651
TO-DATE/1999	7,541,759	103,480	71,715	175,195	22,109

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 146.1 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 150.3 million head or 4.2 million head more than or 103 percent of estimated fryers available.

#### **EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: DEC 19, 2000**

\*NOTE-DUE TO THE UPCOMING HOLIDAY, NO SALES WILL BE REPORTED FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 25, 2000.

	RANGE		RANGE
Red Fowl 4-4.5 LBS	.30 - .62	Silkie	3.50 - 4.50ea.
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.50 - .78	Pigeons	2.50 - 2.90ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.50 - .82	White Pigeons	2.50 - 3.25ea.
Crossbred Roosters - 4-6 LBS	.50 - 1.10	Rabbits 4-6 LBS	1.10 - 1.44
Crossbred Roosters - 7-11 LBS	.50 - .98	Rabbits 7-11 LBS	1.00 - 1.28
Guinea Fowl	1.25 - 1.80	Bunnies	1.00 - 7.50ea.
Banty Roosters	3.00 - 5.50 ea.	Guinea Pigs	.10 - 2.00ea.
Banty Hens	2.50 - 3.50 ea.	Goats	45.00 - 70.00ea.
Leghorn Hens	.10 - .22	Chukars	2.25ea.
Leghorn Roosters	.20 - .34	Pullets 4-6 LBS	.60 - .76
		Muscovy Ducks -	
		Drakes	.40 - .64
		Muscovy Ducks -	
		Hens	.40 - .54
		Pekin Ducks	.30 - .38
		Total Coops Sold	522

#### **EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 18-DEC-2000

**DUCKLINGS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		

MIDWEST	122-126	123-127
MOSTLY	122-124	123-125

**ROASTERS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	66-67
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-83 73-75

**SQUABS:** NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

**CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS** Prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was good to instances very good due to extra holiday movement. Sizes were mostly desirable.

Schedules were generally full-time with some schedules changed due to more winter storms in the Midwest this week. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.35, boneless legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in leg at \$1.45-1.70, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$.50-.75, and leg quarters at \$1.15-1.28, livers at \$1.25-1.50

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 18-DEC-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	121-123	124
MOSTLY		

#### **ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
NOVEMBER 11	159.5	147.1	108	5.12
18	150.7	144.4	104	5.06
25	112.9	143.2	79	5.20
DECEMBER 2	148.1	145.6	102	4.93
9	153.6	148.2	104	5.17
16	150.3	146.1	103	5.18
YEAR TO DATE	7767.6	7629.4	102	
DECEMBER 23		141.3		
30		137.1		

#### **BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

W/E	12/23/00	12/16/00	% CHG	12/25/99	% CHG
Broilers	148,766	148,530*	0	117,493*	+27
Cattle	647	648	0	679*	-05
Hogs	1,873	1,960	-04	2,163*	-13

Under Federal Inspection

\* ACTUAL

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL** Prices were usually unchanged on light canners, but majorities were still trending higher on heavies when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to good, best on short supplies of heavy canners. Offerings were at least sufficient on lights. Undertone was at best steady on lights and fully steady on heavies.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
21-25 MAJORITY	30.5-37 MAJORITY 33-35

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b>	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)</b>
25-26 MAJORITY 25	33-39 MAJORITY 34-37

**EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate for reduced processing schedules. Demand was fair but unaggressive. Finished product sales were clearing available supplies. The undertone was steady.

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Trading was too few sales to report. Demand was light for next week with offerings easily covering slaughter requirements. Trade sentiment was no better than steady.

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices were generally unchanged. Demand was mostly light with offerings fully sufficient to instances ample of current production requirements. Finished product demand was slow. Slaughter schedules were mostly part-time for next week with some plants down for the holiday week. Trade sentiment steady.

### **LIVE HENS**

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<b><u>HEAVY</u></b>	<b><u>RANGE</u></b>	<b><u>MAJORITY</u></b>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(2)
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR	(1)

  

<b><u>LIGHT</u></b>	<b><u>RANGE</u></b>	<b><u>MAJORITY</u></b>
Eastern Light	0	(1)
Eastern Light	0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0-.25	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	.25

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was light to moderate for adequate but reduced offering. Hatching eggs were still being reported as short of needs. Processing plants were mostly on holiday schedules. Floor stocks of finished product were clearing and ranged from about adequate to short of trade requirements. The market tone was fully steady.

**SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN** Trading was too few to report. Demand was slow for adequate offerings next week. Finished sales had slowed for post holiday needs. Schedules were reduced next week. Trade sentiment was steady at best.

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plants worked generally full schedules. Offerings increased.

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